

Message Text

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14 12

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 INRE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 SAM-01 IO-10 SCCT-01 CU-02 A-01

OPR-02 OC-05 CCO-00 EB-07 /075 W

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O R 301247Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4663

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 6382

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (ADDITION OF TAGS,DOWNGRADING INSTRUCTIONS
AND SUBJECT LINE OMITTED IN ORIGINAL)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, PFOR, ET

SUBJECT: WEEKEND SITREP - OMINOUS SIGNS

1. A NUMBER OF POSSIBLE EVENTS MAY CONVERGE THIS WEEKEND, AND,
AS OTHER EMBASSY REPORTS HAVE SHOWN, THERE IS A HEIGHTENED ATMOS-
PHERE OF TENSION IN ADDIS TODAY.

A) TENSIONS WITH THE TRADE UNIONS MAY PEAK TOMORROW WHEN
UNION REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE ASKED BY PMAC TO SELECT A
NEW CELU LEADERSHIP.

B) THE GOVERNMENT HAS SET A DEADLINE OF MONDAY FOR STUDENTS
TO GO BACK TO THE CLASSROOMS AND BEHAVE THEMSELVES.

C) THERE ARE RUMORS THAT THERE MAY BE AN ANNOUNCEMENT THIS
WEEKEND OF THE NATIONALIZATION OF URBAN PROPERTIES, WHICH
WOULD BE A NEW, SHARP BLOW AT THE MIDDLE CLASS.

D) THERE ARE REPORTS THAT THE AFARS HAVE VIRTUALLY EVACUATED
THEIR "CAPITAL" ASSAITA IN RESPONSE TO GOE TROOP MOVEMENTS
THAT HAVE BEEN DESIGNED TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE AFARS DURING
THE ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE PMAC.

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E) THERE ARE RIOTS IN DJIBOUTI, WITH REPORTS OF SEVERAL

HUNDRED HURT.

F) THERE ARE NOW IN PROGRESS NUMEROUS DISTIRBANCES AMONG
GALLAS SOUTH OF ADDIS.

G) THE EMPEROR WILL REPORTEDLY BE OPERATED ON SATURDAY MORNING.

2. THE TRACK RECORD HERE IS THAT EVENTS USUALLY DON'T BEAR OUT
THE MORE OMINOUS SIGNS AND PREDICTIONS. HOWEVER, THE DEPARTMENT'S
ATTENTION IS CALLED TO THE ABOVE REPORTS BECAUSE THE POSSIBILITY
EXISTS THAT THERE COULD BE SERIOUS TROUBLE. THE EMBASSY HAS
INSTRUCTED ALL OFFICIAL PERSONNEL TO CANCEL ANY PLANS FOR
WEEKEND TRIPS OUTSIDE OF ADDIS.

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